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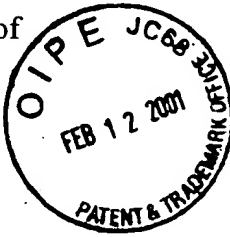
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

SCHAEFER, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/741,008

Filed: December 21, 2000



Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

FOR: PERFORMANCE PATH METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EXCHANGING
DATA AMONG SYSTEMS USING DIFFERENT DATA FORMATS

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PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR §1.102(d)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition pursuant to MPEP §708.02(VIII) to make the above-identified
U.S. patent application special.

If it is determined that the pending claims are not directed to a single invention,
Applicants will make an election without traverse as required under MPEP §708.02(VIII)(b).

Applicants submit that a pre-examination search has been made by a professional
searcher in the following Classes:

Class 707, subclasses 10, 9, 201, and 102;

Class 709, subclass 224 and 218.

Enclosed herewith are copies of the following references which are presently, from
among those of record, the most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims.

U.S. PATENT NO.

INVENTOR(S)

5,893,097

Hayata, et al.

6,094,654	Van Huben, et al.
6,061,692	Thomas, et al.
5,749,079	Yong, et al.
6,141,759	Braddy
6,115,712	Islam, et al.
6,029,160	Cabrera, et al.
6,021,496	Dutcher, et al.
5,966,707	Van Huben, et al.
5,918,229	Davis, et al.
5,899,990	Maritzen, et al.
5,737,736	Chang
5,717,919	Kodavalla et al.
5,455,948	Poole, et al.

DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE REFERENCES

5,893,097

This patent discloses a database management system that is provided to reduce the process time required for data sharing between the server process and the client process. When the client process sends the data reading command to the server process, the server process reads the page specified by the command from the database file, writes the page in the sharing memory

device that includes the mapped file and the page buffer and sends the offset that specifies the page within the region in the mapped file to the client process. The client process maps the logic address of the access space in its process to the region specified by the offset to enable accessing of the page written in the page buffer.

6,094,654

This patent discloses a design control system suitable for use in connection with the design of integrated circuits and other elements of manufacture having many parts which need to be developed in a concurrent engineering environment with inputs provided by users and or systems which may be located anywhere in the world providing a set of control information for coordinating movement of the design information through development and to release while providing dynamic tracking of the status of elements of the bills of materials in an integrated and coordinated activity control system utilizing a repository which can be implemented in the form of a database (relational, object oriented, etc.) or using a flat file system. Once a model is created and/or identified by control information design libraries hold the actual pieces of the design under control of the system without limit to the number of libraries, and providing for tracking and hierarchical designs which are allowed to traverse through multiple libraries. Data Managers become part of the design team, and libraries are programmable to meet the needs of the design group they service.

6,061,692

This patent discloses an information server adapted to service requests for information that has an integral database containing configuration information, application information, and/or content information. The information in a database is stored in a hierarchical fashion with elements that correspond, in some degree, with physical storage structure or individual information objects on the information server. Path names received in information requests are broken into constituent components and are used to retrieve configuration information, application information, and/or content information from the data base and information objects from the physical storage. In the database properties stored at one hierarchical level may be inherited by lower hierarchical levels. The database is preferably provided with a programmatic interface that allows concurrent access to and administration of the database. Mechanisms to notify registered users of changes or events that occur with respect to the database are implemented.

5,749,079

This patent discloses an end user query technology which is capable of automatically understanding the database model and guiding the user to scout for the desired information, thereby increasing productivity and ease of information access. The user is freed from the need to understanding the database model, with the end user query facility of this invention quickly guiding the user to acquire the information. This is made possible by the end user query facility

of this invention first recapturing the application semantics from the existing database model to provide a set of derived semantics. The derived semantics are then used by the end user query facility to intelligently guide the user to scout for the desired information in the database. In addition, the derived semantics can be easily updated by the end user query facility when the database model is changed.

6,141,759

This patent discloses a system and method for distributing, monitoring and managing information requests on a computer network including one or more client computer systems, a first server computer system, and one or more secondary server computer systems. Information requests from the client computer systems to the first server computer system are intercepted and examined by a request broker software system implemented on the first server computer system. The request broker software system examines information regarding the capabilities and resources available on the first server computer system and the secondary server computer systems to determine whether to process the information request locally on the first server computer system or to process the information request remotely on one of the secondary server computer systems. The request broker software system will off-load or distribute the information requests to the secondary server computer systems so as to load-balance the information requests among the secondary server computer systems. The request broker software system will also monitor the processing of information requests and initiate recovery

actions in the event a fault or error occurs during the processing of the request. If the information request is to be processed remotely on one of the secondary server computer systems, the request broker software system establishes an authenticated communication channel with the selected secondary server computer system processes the information request and sends the results back to the request broker software system on the first server computer system. The request broker software then sends the results of the information request that was processed either locally or remotely back to the client computer system that originated the information request.

6,115,712

This patent teaches an open architecture for arbitrarily combining data analysis algorithms and databases on the Internet where the data analysis algorithm and database may be from different vendors or suppliers. At the request of a customer, the two are combined on the fly while maintaining proper security and while enforcing some agreed upon payment from the customer to both the algorithm and database supplies. In one embodiment, a message including an identifier of a user selected independent content provider and an identifier of a particular service associated with a service provider is sent to the service provider on a communication network. The user selected independent content provider is separate from the service provider. In response to the message, a computer executable code, which when executed by the content provider will cause the particular service to be performed against content controlled by the

content provider, is sent from the service provider to the content provider. The computer executable code is executed by the content provider and at least partial results of the executing is returned to the user by way of the communication network.

6,029,160

This patent teaches extensions to a database system that provide linkage between data in the database system and files in a system for filing data which is external to the database system ("the filing system"). The linkage includes an external file reference (efr) data type which is defined in the database system for reference to files that are stored in the filing system, control information is provided by the database system to the filing system. The control information causes the filing system to control processing of reference files according to referential constraints established in the database system.

6,021,496

This patent discloses a method of authenticating a user of a Windows NT client normally configured against an account held at a Windows NT server. The method begins in response to a logon request at the client. In particular, the user is provided with an option to select a server domain from a set of one or more native Windows NT server domains and/or non-native server domains for authentication. The list of native and/or non-native server domains is compiled by an administrator (e.g., during installation) or by the user (at logon). In response to user selection

of the server domain, a connection is then established between the Windows NT client and the server domain. The user is then authenticated at the server domain. Following successful authentication of the Windows NT client at the server domain, a Windows NT user account is then established and maintained at the client.

5,966,707

This patent teaches a Data Management System that has a plurality of data managers and is provided with a plurality of data managers in one or more layers of a layered architecture. The system performs with a data manager and with a user input via an API a plurality of process on data residing in heterogeneous data repositories of the computer system including promotion, check-in, check-out, locking, library searching, setting and viewing process results, tracking aggregations, and managing parts, releases and problem fix data under management control of a virtual control repository having one or more physical heterogeneous repositories. The system provides for storing, accessing, tracking data residing in the one or more data repositories managed by the virtual control repository. User Interfaces provide a combination of command line, scripts, GUI, menu, WebBrowsers maps of the user's view to a PFVL paradigm. Configurable Managers include a query control repository for existence of peer manages and provide logic switches to dynamically interact with peers. A control repository layer provides a common process interface across all managers data view maps to a relational table paradigm and maps control repository layer (CRL) calls to sequences of SQL queries. A command translator

for a relations database provides pass through of SQL queries. Table files map SQL Queries into a set of FILE I/O's with appropriate inter I/O processing, and meta data maps SQL Queries into Meta data API calls with appropriate inter I/O processing. PFVL paradigm calls are mapped into DataManager(s)/Control Repository calls.

5,918,229

This patent teaches, in a network of computer nodes, a structured storage system that interfaces to a globally addressable memory system that provides persistent storage of data. The globally addressable memory system may be a distributed shared memory (DSM) system. A control program resident on each network node can direct the memory system to map file and directory data into the shared memory space. The memory system can include functionality to share data, coherently replicate data, and create log-based transaction data to allow for recovery. In one embodiment, the memory system provides memory device services to the data control program. These services can include read, write, allocate, flush, or any other similar or additional service suitable for providing low level control of a memory storage device. The data control program employs these memory system services to allocate and access portions of the shared memory space for creating and manipulating a structured store of data such as a file system, a database system, or a Web page system for storing, retrieving, and delivering objects such as files, database records or information, and Web pages.

5,899,990

This patent discloses a Java™-to-Database connectivity Server that monitors client communications, accesses a database such as a Sybase relational database, upon client command establishes a connection to the database, accesses requested data from the database, manipulates the data, and relays the data to the database to the client. The Java™-to-Database Connectivity Server- is programmed in the Java™ programming language to facilitate communications with Java™ sockets. The Java™-to-Database Connectivity Server includes an Applications Programmer Interface (API) forming a uniform framework for building or integrating database connectivity across organization and companies globally. A single API supplies connectivity with a database, for example, with Oracle or Sybase database servers. In some embodiments, the Java™-to-Database Connectivity Server is platform-independent and usable on any platform in any usage model (nomadic, remote access, Internet, and Intranet, for example), and encoded entirely in the Java™ programming language using sockets and multi-threading.

5,737,736

This patent teaches a system that manages the storage of the definition and user information used by developers. This information defines and represents forms, reports, books documents, graphics documents and other resources available for use by a developer. The invention creates and manipulates this information for storage in a variety of ways (e.g., an Oracle V6/V7 database, or in native files). The inventions referred to as “resource object store”

(ROS) and allows client 'definition' information in the form of c' structure data to be directly mapped into a representation suitable for persistent and portable storage in either a native ROS file or in a database. By using the ROS APL clients and Tools can transparently access the tool definition data from either the database or native files.

5,717,919

This patent discloses a client/Server Database system with improved methods for appending items to an object, such as appending data records to a database table, in the context of a multi-user environment. The system includes one or more Clients (e.g., Terminals or PCs) connected via a Network to a Server. The clients store data in and retrieve data from one or more database tables resident on the Server by submitting SQL commands, some of which specify insert or append operations, for appending records to a table. For enhancing the speed in which multiple appenders (i.e., Clients) can append records, the operation of the server is modified to append records, the operation of the server is modified to store an object (e.g., table) as multiple (physical) page chains. From the logical viewpoint, a single (logical) page chain of data pages is presented to each client or user. From the perspective of inserting records, however, the system has multiple page chains to insert into, thereby removing contention among multiple appenders for the last page.

5,455,948

This patent discloses a method for isolating data and information collection components (data descriptions and locations 124, procedures to access data 126 and operational data 128) from other components (charting 172, report 174, hypertext 176 and visual basic 178) of an application program (106) in a distributed environment (150) comprises the steps to first define data points according to location, structure, and access mechanism for the application program (106). The method groups a plurality of data points (128) into logical collections and overlays on the grouped data points (128) a logic component (102) for deriving information from the data points. Additionally, the method includes directing the grouped data points (128) through the logic component (102) to other components of the application program (106). Grouped data points (128) may be communicated synchronously to an associated workstation (104 and 146) or asynchronously to a background task (148) associated with the application program (106).

THE PRESENT APPLICATION

The present application, however, describes delivery components that allow data read or write requests and data responses to pass between a client software application and access components. Each delivery component is developed specifically for each client application. Furthermore, data views (that is, sets of mapping and stored procedures) receive data read or write requests and construct responses, and allow data responses to pass to system domain server components from a target database that is not compatible with the client application. Each set of data views is developed specifically for each target database, and provides virtual compatibility

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for each target database with each client application. The delivery components and the data views together allow the client application to access the incompatible database through the access components and system domain server components.

Therefore, the present application claims subject matter that is not anticipated or suggested by, and is patentable in light of, the foregoing references.

Granting of this Petition to Make Special and expedited examination of the claims in the present application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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